Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A cell comprising an increased amount of Bcl-x_L protein, wherein the cell does not express a heterologous cyclin-dependent kinase inhibitor, wherein the cell further comprises a first expression vector encoding a polypeptide, wherein the polypeptide is a secreted protein, ~~and~~ wherein the cell produces an increased amount of the polypeptide as compared to a cell that does not comprise an increased amount of the Bcl-x_L protein, and wherein the cell is a Chinese Hamster Ovary (CHO) cell.

2-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously presented) The cell of claim 1, wherein the cell is adapted for growth in suspension.

7. (Previously presented) The cell of claim 1, wherein the cell is adapted for growth in a medium free of serum.

8. (Original) The cell of claim 7, wherein the medium comprises butyrate.

9. (Previously presented) The cell of claim 1, wherein the Bcl-x_L protein is expressed from an expression vector introduced into the cell.

10. (Previously presented) The cell of claim 1, wherein the Bcl-x_L protein is of a species different than that of the cell.

11. (Previously presented) The cell of claim 1, wherein the Bcl-x_L protein is human.

12-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously presented) The cell of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide is a light or heavy chain of an antibody.

15. (Original) The cell of claim 14, wherein the first expression vector encodes both the light and heavy chains of the antibody.

16. (Original) The cell of claim 14, wherein the cell further comprises a second expression vector encoding the light or heavy chain of the antibody, wherein the first and second expression vectors together express the antibody in the cell.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently amended) A method of producing a polypeptide, the method comprising

providing a cell comprising an increased amount of Bcl-x_L protein, wherein the cell does not express a heterologous cyclin-dependent kinase inhibitor, wherein the cell further comprises a first expression vector encoding a polypeptide, ~~and~~ wherein the cell produces an increased amount of the polypeptide as compared to a cell that does not comprise an increased amount of the Bcl-x_L protein, and wherein the cell is a CHO cell;

expressing the polypeptide in the cell; and

isolating the polypeptide from the cell culture.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the polypeptide is isolated from the medium of the cell culture.

21-24. (Cancelled)

25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the cell is adapted for growth in suspension.

26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the cell is adapted for growth in a medium free of serum.

27. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein the medium comprises butyrate.

28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the Bcl-x_L protein is expressed from an expression vector introduced into the cell.

29. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the Bcl-x_L protein is of a species different than that of the cell.

30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the Bcl-x_L protein is human.

31. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the polypeptide is a secreted protein.

32. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the polypeptide is a light or heavy chain of an antibody.

33. (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein the first expression vector encodes both the light and heavy chains of the antibody.

34. (Original) The method of claim 32, further comprising introducing into the cell a second expression vector encoding a light or heavy chain of the antibody, wherein the first and second expression vector together express the antibody in the cell.